

SESSION OF 2002

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 550

As Amended by House Committee on
Local Government

Brief*

SB 550 would enact the Independence Area Library District Act. The bill establishes a procedure for the expansion of the Independence City Library to include all the territory of USD 446 which is located in Montgomery County and would change procedures regarding a library district in Wyandotte County.

The bill provides for the question of the establishment of the library district to be placed before voters by the passage of a resolution by the Independence Public Library Board of Trustees. The library district, if approved, would be governed by a nine-member board of trustees – four members would be appointed by the governing body of the City of Independence, two members by the USD 446 board of education, two members by the board of county commissioners chosen one from each list of nominees submitted by the Montgomery County Farm Bureau and Conservation District, respectively, and one member by the governing body of Elk City.

The library district could levy a tax of not to exceed 1.2 mills. Increases could be authorized by the board of education but could not exceed the rate of taxation imposed by the regional library system which formerly contained the added territory. Tax increases would be subject to a 5 percent protest petition and election procedure. The bill also provides that 10 percent of the qualified electors could petition for an election on the issue of a tax reduction or the dissolution of the library district.

The Senate Committee of the Whole added provisions of HB 2781, which authorizes the Director of Revenue for the Unified Government of

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.accesskansas.org/legislature/>

Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas to maintain a separate library fund for library districts and to make payments on behalf of the libraries from the fund.

The House Committee added two members to the library board to be appointed by the county commission and tied the tax levy rate to that used by the regional library system.

Background

The bill was supported by representatives of the Independence Public Library and the City of Independence.

The bill has no fiscal impact on the state.